

**REMARKS**

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed February 22, 2006. Claims 1-4, 6-14, and 19-31 are pending in the Application. Applicant amends Claims 1, 19, and 24, and submits new Claims 34-36, which are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action of all pending claims in view of the following remarks.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103**

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 30, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 5,892,901 to Landwehr et al. ("*Landwehr*"), rejects Claims 10, 20, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over *Landwehr* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,185,615 to Namma et al ("*Namma*"), rejects Claims 12-14, 22, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Landwehr*, and further in view of *Namma* and U.S. Patent No. 6,249,681 to Virtanen ("*Virtanen*"), rejects Claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Landwehr* and further in view of *Virtanen*, and rejects Claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Landwehr* further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,495,480 to Yoshida ("*Yoshida*"). Applicant respectfully traverses for the reasons described below.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "comparing the delay time interval to an activity associated with the system communicating with the network, the activity being any communication between the system and the network" and "isolating the communication module and the delay timer from the network based on the comparison . . . ." This combination of limitations is not shown by *Landwehr*, which the Office Action relies on in making this rejection. Rather, *Landwehr* involves a delay timer connected to the network (detector 18 part of network 30) and in response to a delay, potentially isolating a third device (circuit 28) from external communication. (column 3, lines 46-65 and Figure 1 of *Landwehr*). But it does not disclose isolating **both the communication module and the delay timer from the network**. Clearly, the delay timer, taught as part of the network, is not isolated from the network in response to a delay in *Landwehr*.

For at least these reasons, Claim 1 is allowable, as are all claims depending therefrom. Claims 19 and 24 are allowable for analogous reasons, as are all claims depending therefrom. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

**New Claims**

New Claims 34-36 have been added and are fully supported by the original specification. In addition, new Claims 34-36 recite further patentable distinctions over the prior art of record. For example, each claim recites “wherein the network implements a TCP/IP transport language protocol.” It appears that the Office Action asserts that the communication line of *Landwehr* constitutes the claimed network, but clearly the mouse, keyboard, and monitor do not communicate over a network that implements a TCP/IP transport language protocol. Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of new Claims 34-36.

**CONCLUSION**

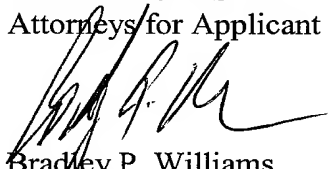
Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present Application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 214-953-6447.

Applicant believes no fees are due. Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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4/20/06

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